

WILDLIFE RESOURCES DIVISION STATEMENT  
PRESENTED AT THE JORDAN RIVER FLOOD CONTROL  
MEETING AT THE STATE CAPITOL  
DECEMBER 13, 1971

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The Utah State Division of Wildlife Resources is charged by law (Wildlife Resources Code of Utah 23-14-1) "....with the duty to protect, propagate, manage, conserve, and distribute protected wildlife through the state...". The following comments are presented in view of our above charge. <sup>9</sup>Fishing utilization of the Jordan River from Utah Lake downstream to 33rd South receives only nominal use at the present time. However, this section of stream is open to year-round fishing and does provide recreational opportunity for angling - particularly, during the non-general fishing season. The Division of Wildlife Resources during the past ten years has stocked approximately 223,000 trout in this reach of stream. Both catchable-size rainbow and fingerling brown and rainbow trout have been stocked. Fishing is maintained largely through the artificial propagation and stocking program although a limited wild population of brown trout exists. Further, game fish species such as white bass, channel catfish, bullheads, <sup>and</sup> walleye pike inhabit this area and have their origins <sup>primarily</sup> from migrations from Utah Lake. Fishing, for all game species, is known to occur on the river. The area also contains common <sup>to</sup> ~~and~~ abundant populations of nongame fish.

It is recognized that the fishery habitat in the Jordan River has been degraded for many years through pollution, dewatering, and prior dredging. While the resource is limited, proper awareness of environmental quality followed by improvements could increase and better the fishery habitat. The dredging which is presently occurring downstream from approximately 12,600 South is largely destroying what habitat does exist for game fish populations in the dredging <sup>ol</sup> ~~ing~~ areas. The Division of Wildlife Resources urges

*these comments*

~~that this~~ be taken into consideration in any evaluation and eventual decision making relative to the dredging activity on the Jordan River.

We appreciate the opportunity to make this statement at the hearing and submit it for inclusion in the minutes.